

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method comprising:
 - using one or more unused bits of an address argument of a command as an addressing mode field to determine whether said address argument is a byte address argument or a block address argument.
2. The method of claim 1 comprising:
 - determining that the address argument is the byte address argument when the addressing mode field is zero.
3. The method of claim 1 comprising:
 - determining that the address argument is the block address argument when the addressing mode field is one.
4. The method of claim 2 further comprising:
 - accessing a byte address within a memory unit according to the byte address argument if said address argument is a byte address argument.
5. The method of claim 3 further comprising:
 - accessing a block address within a memory unit according to the block address argument if said address argument is a block address argument.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein using said one or more unused bits comprises using a least significant bit of said address argument.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein using said one or more unused bits comprises using a most significant bit of said address argument.
8. An apparatus comprising:
 - a memory unit; and
 - a controller to determine whether an addressing mode to access said memory unit is a byte addressing mode or a block addressing mode and to send a command to access data within said memory unit according to said addressing mode.

9. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said memory unit is a multi media card (MMC).
10. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein said memory unit is a secure digital (SD) memory card.
11. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the addressing mode is associated with the ninth bit of a 48-bit command having a 32-bit address argument.
12. The apparatus of claim 8, wherein the addressing mode is associated with the 31-st bit of a 48-bit command having a 32-bit address argument.
13. An article comprising a storage medium having stored thereon instructions that, when executed by a computing platform, result in:
 - using an addressing mode field of an address argument of a command to determine whether said address argument is a byte address argument or a block address argument.

14. The article of claim 13 wherein the instructions, when executed result in:
 - using one or more unused bits of the address argument as the addressing mode field.
15. The article of claim 13, wherein the instructions when executed further result in:
 - determining that the address argument is the byte address argument when the addressing mode field is zero.
16. The article of claim 13, wherein the instructions when executed further result in:
 - determining that the address argument is the block address argument when the addressing mode field is one.